



A COMPLETE TWO-ARC ILLUSTRATED MANGA

The Moon That Swallowed Our Names

In a city where the names of the dead fall as teeth, a girl boards the last train into the moon to save the brother she cannot let go.

12 ILLUSTRATED PAGES / TWO COMPLETE STORY ARCS

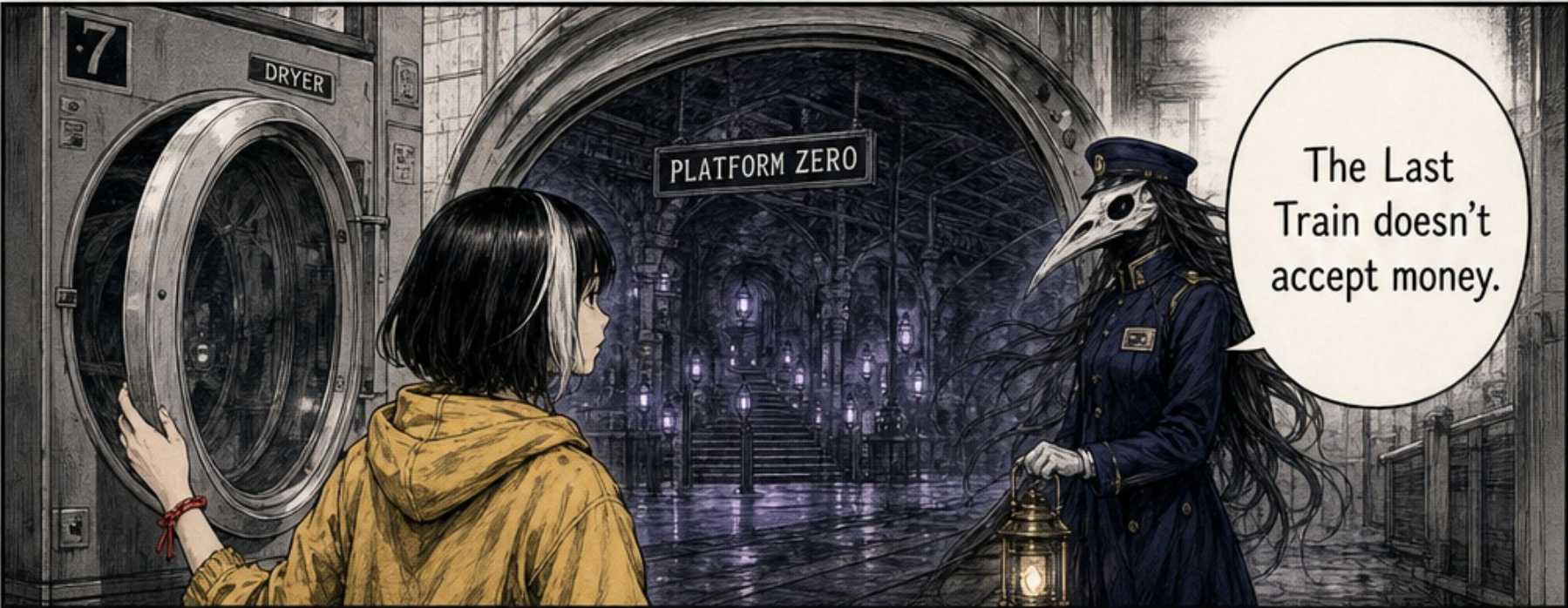
ARC I

The Name at Platform Zero

A dead brother. A memory tax. A train that climbs into the mouth of the moon.

PAGES 01-06





The Last Train doesn't accept money.



The fare is something you love.



Take the colors of my mother's garden.



The color never came back.



The bell doesn't eat grief. It eats who the grief belongs to.





The things we bury learn how to knock.



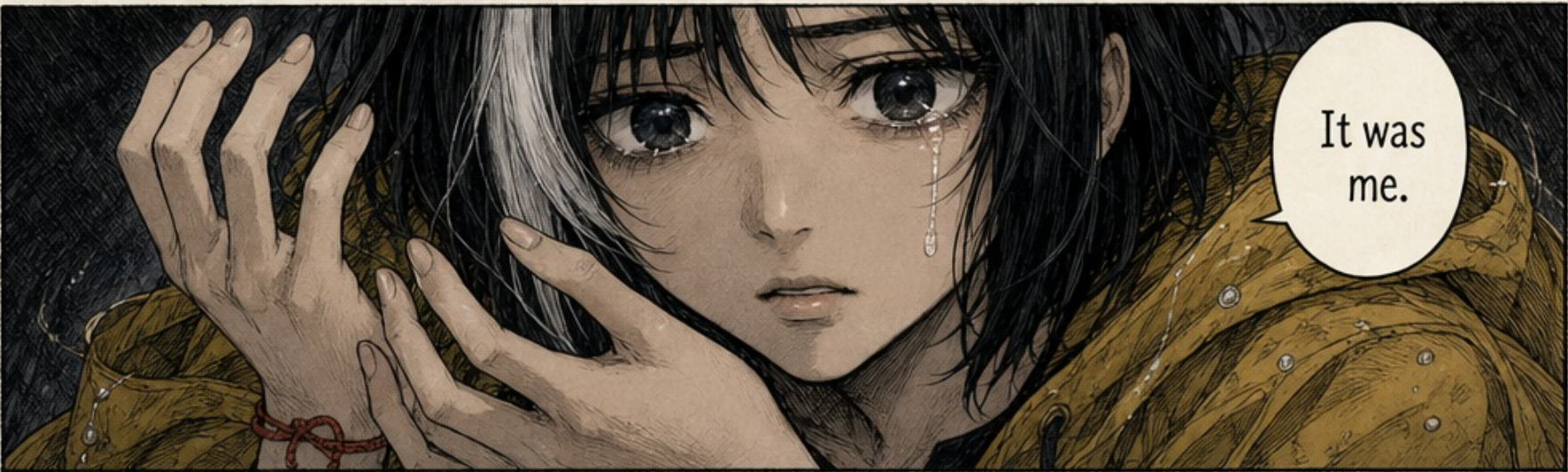
Take the day he died. I have another child to keep alive.



She didn't forget him. She forgot how he left.

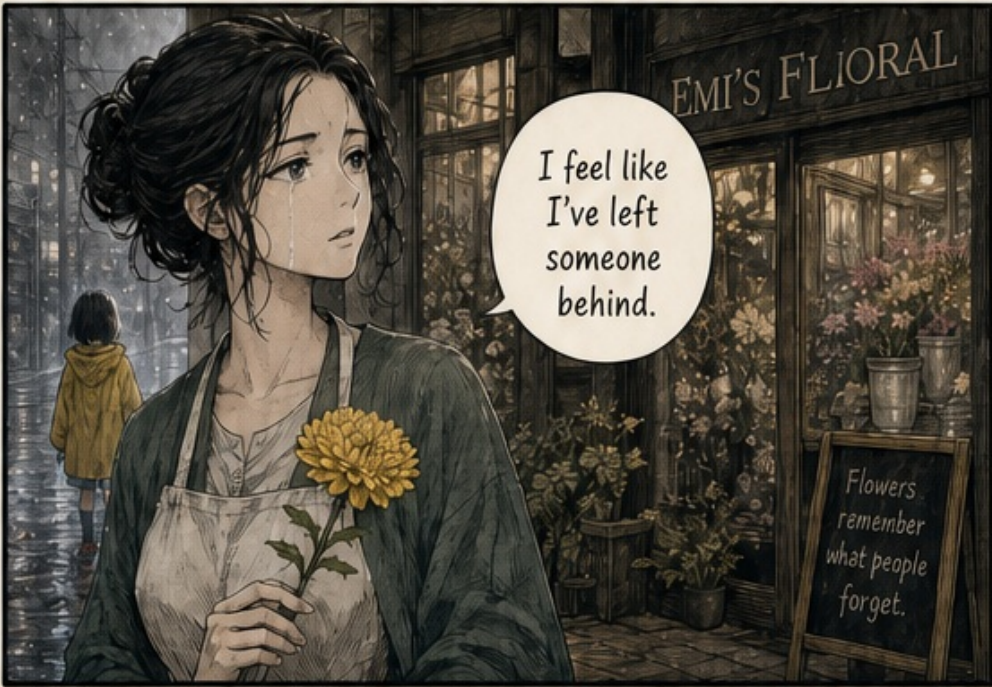


Breathe, Aya. I'll hold on.



It was me.





ARC II

A Funeral for the Living

A girl without a name must teach an entire city that remembering is not
the same as breaking.

PAGES 07-12



A name is
a door other
people use
to find you.



I don't know
you. But I think
I promised you
something.



Someone
loved this
color.



There was
another child
on the river
that night.



Her name
was Mio.

He forgot
her seven times.



Keep this
until I get home,
Papa.



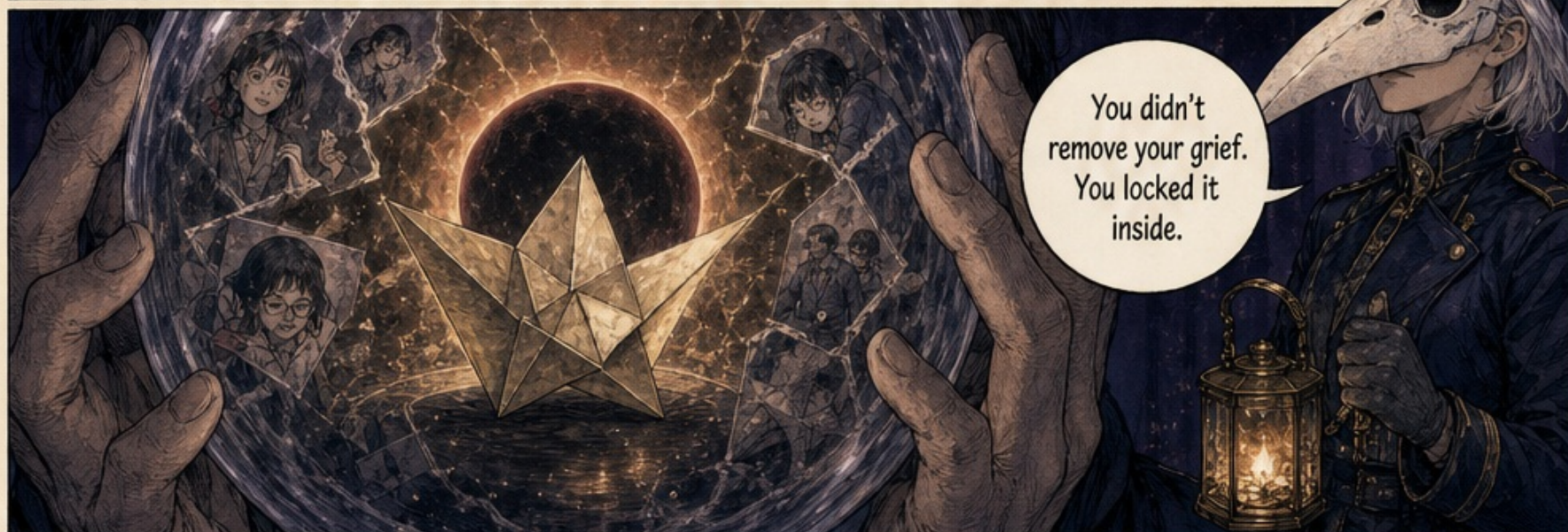
The city
nearly drowned
in its mourning.

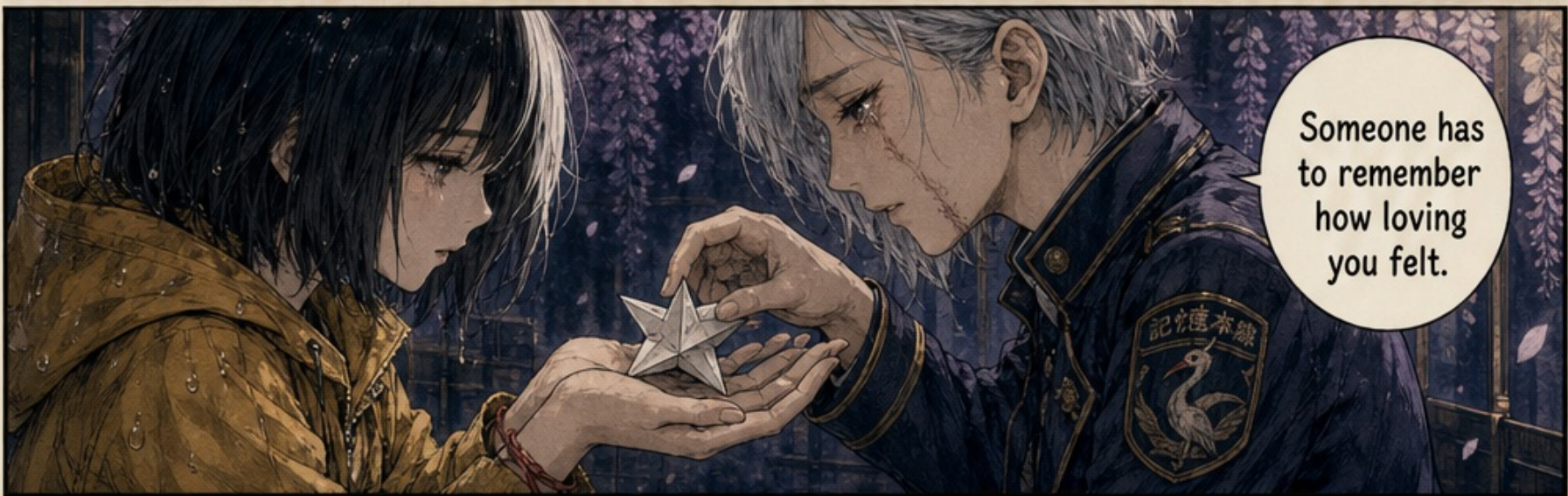


I thought
forgetting was
mercy.



You didn't
remove your grief.
You locked it
inside.







Then nobody has to carry it alone.



Haru. Masao. Yui. Ren. Mio.



Aya! My daughter. Aya!



I thought remembering would break us.



Remember her. Not the fear.



ARC II: A FUNERAL FOR THE LIVING
THERE IS STILL A PLACE AT THE TABLE



The complete panel script

ARC 1 / PAGE 01

It Rained Teeth the Night Ren Came Home

- 1 A moon stitched shut with red thread hangs above Utsuro as porcelain teeth rain over telephone wires.
In Utsuro, the names of the dead fell as teeth.
- 2 Aya in her yellow raincoat counts teeth in her palm outside her mother's closed flower shop.
AYA: If I don't say it, maybe it didn't happen.
- 3 Eel-shaped municipal ticket inspectors unwind from a storm drain and circle her ankles.
INSPECTOR: Unpaid grief. One year overdue.
- 4 A translucent little boy in a handmade paper fox mask appears in the flower-shop window reflection.
REN: Aya. Please look at me.
- 5 Aya whirls around. Ren stands in the rain holding a blood-red thread.
REN: We have until the bell strikes thirteen.

ARC 1 / PAGE 02

The Fare Is Something You Love

- 1 A laundromat's spinning dryers open into an underground station marked PLATFORM ZERO.
SUMI: The Last Train doesn't accept money.
- 2 The crane-masked conductor holds out a brass punch shaped like a tiny mouth.
SUMI: The fare is something you love.
- 3 Aya pictures Emi's flower garden, brilliant marigold-yellow and thick green after rain.
AYA: Take the colors of my mother's garden.
- 4 The ticket punch bites a ribbon of color from Aya's forehead; the flowers in her memory become gray.
CAPTION: The color never came back.
- 5 The skeletal train arrives, carrying passengers with lanterns for heads.
SUMI: The bell doesn't eat grief. It eats who the grief belongs to.

The complete panel script - continued

ARC 1 / PAGE 03

The Train Climbed Into the Moon's Throat

- 1 The skeletal train climbs vertically into the night sky toward the stitched moon.
CAPTION: Some trains arrive by disappearing.
- 2 Lantern-headed passengers cradle portraits, tiny shoes, and folded letters.
REN: I've been riding in circles for a year.
- 3 Aya grips Ren's translucent hand across the carriage seat.
AYA: Mom won't let you go, will she?
- 4 Ren's reflection in the train window looks older and impossibly sad.
REN: That's not what I said.
- 5 The moon opens one immense eye; inside its reflection, Emi folds three lunchboxes.
CAPTION: At home, Mother still packed three lunches.

ARC 1 / PAGE 04

Mother Left Three Places at the Table

- 1 A cathedral-sized memory vault contains suspended rooms made from floating glass.
SUMI: The things we bury learn how to knock.
- 2 In a memory, Emi kneels at the flooded river while clutching Aya's soaked yellow coat.
EMI: Take the day he died. I have another child to keep alive.
- 3 A younger Aya watches her mother mechanically fold three lunches at the kitchen table.
AYA: She didn't forget him. She forgot how he left.
- 4 A second glass memory breaks: Ren pushes Aya above black floodwater.
REN: Breathe, Aya. I'll hold on.
- 5 Aya stares at her own hands as she understands who truly refused to remember.
AYA: It was me.

The complete panel script - continued

ARC 1 / PAGE 05

The Orchard Grows Hearts Instead of Fruit

- 1 An impossible orchard grows human-heart-shaped paper lanterns beneath the interior sky of the moon.
GARDENER: Grief is a garden nobody should have to tend.
- 2 The Night Gardener's glass globe head contains a tiny eclipsed sun.
GARDENER: I removed the pain. I gave this city peace.
- 3 Ren's paper fox mask tangles in branches as Aya tries to reach him.
REN: You kept me here because you wouldn't remember.
- 4 Municipal paper eels bind Ren to a monumental bell whose surface is covered in stolen names.
GARDENER: Thirteen strikes. Then no one will have to hurt again.
- 5 Sumi places a blank ticket against Aya's chest as the bell begins to move.
SUMI: To stop it, the fare is your name.

ARC 1 / PAGE 06

Everyone Forgot Aya

- 1 Aya presses her name, written in scarlet ink, onto the blank ticket while the bell freezes.
AYA: Take it. Give him one more day.
- 2 Ren falls free from the bell into a shower of white porcelain teeth.
CAPTION: The first strike stopped.
- 3 The crane-masked conductor stares at Aya as if meeting a stranger.
SUMI: I'm sorry. Do I know you?
- 4 Emi looks directly through Aya outside the florist while clutching an inexplicable yellow flower.
EMI: I feel like I've left someone behind.
- 5 Ren faces Aya without recognition; the red thread around her left wrist remains tied to his fox mask.
REN: Who are you?

The complete panel script - continued

ARC 2 / PAGE 07

The Girl Nobody Could Name

- 1 Commuters pass through the space around Aya, unable to focus on her face.
CAPTION: A name is a door other people use to find you.
- 2 Ren follows the red wrist thread even though he cannot remember where it leads.
REN: I don't know you. But I think I promised you something.
- 3 Emi plants a single yellow flower in a garden Aya can see only as gray.
EMI: Someone loved this color.
- 4 Sumi opens an old station drawer and discovers a torn family photograph.
SUMI: There was another child on the river that night.
- 5 The photograph shows Sumi, the Night Gardener with a human face, and a little girl with braided hair.
SUMI: Her name was Mio.

ARC 2 / PAGE 08

A Birthday Cake for a Girl Who Never Arrived

- 1 Inside a locked greenhouse, seven untouched birthday cakes sit beneath glass domes.
CAPTION: He forgot her seven times.
- 2 A memory shows young Mio in round glasses and braids folding a paper star.
MIO: Keep this until I get home, Papa.
- 3 The flooded city kneels at a river crowded with candles and photographs.
GARDENER: The city nearly drowned in its mourning.
- 4 The newly constructed bell sucks grief from thousands of citizens as the man's face turns to glass.
GARDENER: I thought forgetting was mercy.
- 5 Close-up inside his glass head: the eclipsed sun is actually Mio's tiny folded paper star.
SUMI: You didn't remove your grief. You locked it inside.

The complete panel script - continued

ARC 2 / PAGE 09

The Conductor Removed Her Mask

- 1 Sumi slowly lifts the white crane-skull mask away from her face.
SUMI: Mio was our daughter.
- 2 Her revealed face has short silver hair, tired eyes, and an old river scar.
SUMI: He built a machine to forget. I built a train to remember.
- 3 The Last Train carries lantern-headed dead through the open vault doors.
SUMI: Every night, I tried to take them home.
- 4 Aya offers a hand to the heart-lantern orchard instead of reaching for a weapon.
AYA: A stolen name can't be stolen back, can it?
- 5 Sumi places Mio's folded paper star in Aya's hand.
SUMI: Someone has to remember how loving you felt.

ARC 2 / PAGE 10

A Funeral for the Living

- 1 Aya opens the entire memory vault, releasing a tidal wave of luminous names over Utsuro.
AYA: Then nobody has to carry it alone.
- 2 Citizens gather beneath the rain and begin speaking the names of people they lost.
CROWD: Haru. Masao. Yui. Ren. Mio.
- 3 Emi remembers the flood and spots the red thread looped around Aya's wrist.
EMI: Aya! My daughter. Aya!
- 4 Aya becomes fully visible as her mother catches her in a fierce embrace.
AYA: I thought remembering would break us.
- 5 The Gardener raises the final bell hammer as Sumi offers Mio's folded paper star.
SUMI: Remember her. Not the fear.

The complete panel script - continued

ARC 2 / PAGE 11

We Let the Moon Open

- 1 The Night Gardener touches Mio's paper star. His glass head cracks, revealing his crying human face.
GARDENER: Mio. My little star.
- 2 Sumi and the Gardener ring the stolen-name bell together, transforming it into a funeral bell.
SUMI: Let this be a goodbye, not an erasure.
- 3 Scarlet stitches unwind from the moon, releasing a sky full of lantern souls.
CAPTION: The moon finally opened its mouth.
- 4 Aya remembers Ren lifting her above the flood and holds his translucent hands in the present.
AYA: I'm sorry I made my guilt your home.
- 5 Ren removes his paper fox mask, smiles, and fades into moonlit paper stars.
REN: You don't have to keep me to remember me.

ARC 2 / PAGE 12

There Is Still a Place at the Table

- 1 Spring returns to Utsuro; neighbors hold a communal lantern memorial under an ordinary open moon.
CAPTION: The city learned to mourn in the plural.
- 2 Sumi and the former Gardener operate a small memorial railway beneath Mio's framed photograph.
SUMI: One ticket. No fare. Take your time.
- 3 Emi plants yellow marigolds; through Aya's eyes the flowers remain gently gray.
AYA: I still can't see the colors. That's okay.
- 4 Aya and Emi set Ren's place at the table on his birthday, then wash the third plate together.
EMI: We can miss him and keep living.
- 5 Outside the window, a tiny paper fox rides the warm spring wind while Aya smiles through tears.
AYA: Goodnight, Ren. We'll remember.

THE END

We can miss them and keep living.

A complete story about grief, imperfect families, survivor's guilt, memory, forgiveness, and the ordinary courage of carrying loss together.

12 ILLUSTRATED PAGES / 60 STORY PANELS / 2 COMPLETE ARCS